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Third Thursday

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture  
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## Third Thursday 12-2013

Institute of Agriculture

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# Third Thursday



*Dr. Cheryl Greenacre, associate professor of avian and zoological medicine, captured this image of winter beauty in the UT Gardens, Knoxville. Her photo was an entry in the 2012-13 Institute-wide Photo Competition. You can share images of your own in this year's competition. The contest deadline is March 14. [More ...](#)*

## A message from Chancellor Larry Arrington

To our Institute family and friends,

As we prepare for this season of holidays, I invite you to join with me in giving thanks. We have so much at the Institute of Agriculture for which to be grateful.

Together, UTIA is an incredible team. We are world-class teachers and scientists and highly

skilled professionals with many gifts and talents. We give our best to the institute and the people we serve. Our students continue to achieve at the highest levels. I can truly say that across Tennessee, in every county and community, we make a difference. We touch people's lives and assist them in achieving goals and dreams and creating a better life for themselves.

I give thanks for your achievements in fulfilling our land-grant mission. This has been a year of many transitions on the ag campus. We are blessed with new facilities that will enable us to better serve our clientele through our research, teaching and outreach programs. We welcomed several new leaders this year, as well as faculty and staff.

As we prepare for our winter break, I wish you safe and joyous holidays and happy times with family and friends. I also hope that you will have time to rest and recharge, as together we prepare for all the excitement, challenges and opportunities of 2014.

With gratitude for all you do,



## **Tennessee triumvirate: Game commissioners advise students**



When the directors of wildlife programs in Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia get together they talk shop, but they also talk history. All three studied wildlife science in the institute's College of



Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

On Nov. 22, the trio got together at the UT Institute of Agriculture to talk career preparation and job opportunities with students majoring in wildlife and fisheries science. **More ...**

## Ag leaders develop strategic plan to grow Tennessee

Tennessee's top agricultural leaders have announced **a 10-year strategic plan to increase agriculture and forestry in the state** by building production capacity and incentivizing the private sector.

The plan has been a year in the making and has been guided by Chancellor Larry Arrington and other ag and natural resource leaders. The plan was developed following a challenge by Gov. Bill Haslam a year ago to make Tennessee the No. 1 state in the Southeast in the growth and development of agriculture and forestry. **More ...**



## Calendar of 2014 field days and special events announced



UT AgResearch is planning a full array of field days for 2014. Twelve field days and five special events will take place at UT AgResearch and Education Centers across the state.

The events provide visitors a chance to see agricultural research trials in action, speak with university experts and network with industry professionals. **More ...**

## Block and Bridle's Rocky Top Classic draws 30 exhibitors, 83 cattle

CASNR's **Block and Bridle Club** hosted a Rocky Top Classic Cattle Show in Brehm Animal Science Arena last Saturday.

More than 30 4-H and FFA members showed 83 head of cattle. Competitors came from Tennessee and North Carolina for the event.



## Honors for staff vital to our mission

Directors of AgResearch and Education Centers are honoring four technicians, the unsung heros of field work, for all they do to



advance their unit's research objectives and programs. Read about recipients of the 2013 Directors' Awards for Outstanding Performance. [More ...](#)

In Knoxville, Administrative Support Assistant Miriam Wright is being celebrated as the 2013 Award of Excellence recipient among campus Extension nonexempt staff. [More ...](#)



Wildlife Science Professor and Extension Specialist Craig Harper has received a national honor from the Quality Deer Management Association. The award recognizes his dedication, knowledge and enthusiasm in areas of deer management.

[More ...](#)



Dr. Elizabeth Strand, associate professor in the Colleges of Social Work and Veterinary Medicine, has been elected into the National Academies of Practice as a Distinguished Scholar and Fellow.

A Distinguished Scholar and Fellow is a very high honor that acknowledges outstanding achievements. National Academies of Practice Fellows are considered the most accomplished in their field and go through a rigorous selection process.



More than 2,200 participants are expected for Saturday's Jingle Bell Run/Walk in Knoxville. Its 2013 medical honoree is Dr. Darryl Millis, small animal orthopedic surgeon with the College of Veterinary Medicine. [More ...](#)

## AgResearch, Genera complete \$5 million biofuels grant

The multimillion dollar DOE grant funded research and development of innovative





Soil Science. [More ...](#)

feedstock logistics systems.

“Through this grant and by collaborating with Genera Energy, we’ve been able to evaluate existing switchgrass supply logistics and to develop groundbreaking systems that offer better and more cost-effective methods for handling, processing and storing chopped switchgrass,” says project leader Al Womac, professor of Biosystems Engineering and

## Steller hands-on learning experience for CASNR undergraduates

It’s easy to say that the Institute of Agriculture offers undergraduates world-class opportunities for hands-on learning — it’s one of our core priorities.

But it’s far more fun to have our students tell about their experiences. Read a few of the stories they’ve shared. [More ...](#)



## Oncology clinical trials underway at UT Veterinary Medical Center



The Oncology Service at the institute's Veterinary Medical Center is accepting cats and dogs with tumors for ongoing clinical trials. [More ...](#)



Montgomery County 4-H'ers help to make the holidays brighter for servicemen and women at Ft. Campbell. The youth are providing holiday meals to wounded warriors and their families. **Watch a UTIA video about the youth's outreach.**



If you're looking for a peaceful refuge this holiday season, consider a trip to see a seasonal favorite decked out for the holidays in its natural setting.

The UT Arboretum in Oak Ridge includes a holly collection of more than 200 specimens of the popular yuletide evergreen. **More ...**



In late November, Sadie, a loving dog, was badly burned in a house fire.

Watch a WBIR-TV news video about her remarkable journey to recovery and the care and treatment at the Veterinary Medical Center that made it possible. **More ...**



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